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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/668,715	09/23/2003	Ryoji Hattori	KON-1826	2423

20311 7590 07/11/2005

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EXAMINER

AHMAD, NASSER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1772

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/668,715

Applicant(s)

HATTORI ET AL.

Examiner

Nasser Ahmad

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte*, Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 9-17 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I (claims 1-17 and 21) in the reply filed on April 14, 2005 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-4, 9-17 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hattori (6638635).

Hattori relates to a preparation method of an identification (ID) card (col. 23, 35-47) and utilizing a protection layer transfer foil (64) and a card substrate, the protection layer having a peeling layer (64a1) and a transferring layer (64a2) laminated on the peeling layer. The method comprises adhering the transferring layer onto the card substrate and peeling off the peeling layer to prepare the ID card (col. 23, lines 20-34). The peeling layer on the thermal transfer foil is preferably coated in amount of 0.5-50 g/sqm. Depending on the usage (col. 21, lines 3-5). The photo-cured resin may, optionally, include sensitizing agent, UV-absorbent, anti-static, etc. (col. 29, lines 58-61). The transferring layer includes photo-cured layer (col. 25, lines 30-38) having 0.3-50 micron in thickness. However, Hattori fails to teach that the coating weight of the peeling layer is more than 0 and not more than 3.0 g/sqm, and that the static charge of the peeling

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layer being 0-30kV. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Hattori by providing the peeling layer to have a coating weigh of more than 0 and not more than 3 g/sqm., based on optimization through routine experimentation, to provide for optimum peelability of the peeling layer in view of the conditions being the same of making the product.

The anti-static agent is preferably contained in the in the transparent protective transfer layer to prepare the card free of dust attraction. The anti-static layer can include electrically conductive particles (col. 9, lines 43-48).

The intermediate layer contains polyvinyl butyral resin or adhesive (col. 14, line 66 to col. 15, line 21).

The card substrate includes a first sheet member and a second sheet member laminate as shown in figure 1-(1) and col. 22, line 10 to col. 23, line 17. the substrate is capable of receiving sublimation dye image.

The peeling angle of the peeling layer would be obvious to be between 1 and 120 degrees for optimum capability for peeling the layer, based on optimization though routine experimentation, without causing damage when the peeling layer is peeled.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 5-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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The prior art uncovered so far fails to teach or suggest the presence of the anti-static layer between the support layer and the photo-cured resin layer.

Claim Objections

5. Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informalities: In line 5, the word "polyvinilbutyral" should be corrected to read - -polyvinyl butyral- - .

Appropriate correction is required.

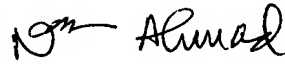
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nasser Ahmad whose telephone number is 571-272-1487. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and on alternate Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Nasser Ahmad
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1772

N. Ahmad.
July 9, 2005.